

176720
I 3**POLREP**

SITE: Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC)
Site ID# 0528

LOCATION: 90 Seahorse Drive, Waukegan, IL.

DATE: 5-15-03

FROM: Ken Theisen, OSC, Region V

TO: R. Worley, Region V Rep, H.Q.
M. Guerriero, Chief ERB
L. Nachowicz, Chief ERS III
K. Adler, RRB
A. Tenenbaum, DOJ
T. Martin, ORC
J. Maritote, ESS
R. Paulson, OPA
A. Marouf, RRS
E. Rednaur, IEPA
R. Vukovich, City of Waukegan
M. Chezick, DOI

AUTHORITY: CERCLA

PROJECT START DATE: 12-10-02

PROJECT COMPLETION DATE: TBA

BACKGROUND

The OMC site is located on Lake Michigan in Waukegan, IL and was a large designer, manufacturer and seller of outboard marine engines, parts and accessories. It filed for a Chapter 11 petition for bankruptcy on December 22, 2000 and later converted it to a Chapter 7. The OMC property is divided into three areas the Plant #1, Plant #2, and the Coke Plant site. The on-going removal action deals only with the Plant #2 portion of the property

A part of the OMC property is an existing NPL (National Priorities List) site under CERCLA (Superfund). The NPL site is comprised of three containment cells in which thermally treated PCB contaminated sludge dredged from the harbor is stored. This was done in 1988 via a Consent Decree with the U.S. EPA. Among other actions, the Decree required OMC to provide long term operational and maintenance of the containment cells.

The bankruptcy trustee filed a motion to abandon the Plant #2 property on November 15, 2001. The

-2-

United States and the State of Illinois filed a joint objection to the abandonment, citing areas of imminent and identifiable hazard that must be addressed before abandonment. The U.S. EPA Region V Emergency Response Branch had done a Discovery Site Inspection in the spring of 2002 and had identified the imminent and substantial dangers to public health and/or to the environment that existed at the site. U.S. EPA and U. S. DOJ negotiated a scope of work together with cleanup criteria to be performed by the Trustee and/or the new owner Bombardier. This work was completed with oversight provided by the U.S. EPA, and on December 10, 2002 the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division allowed the Trustee to abandon the site.

On that same day, the U.S. EPA Emergency Response Branch initiated its role in completing the environmental cleanup at Plant #2, by continuing security, continuing the O&M at the three containment cells with a consulting firm and electrical service, and having a part time caretaker on-site thru the winter months.

With the arrival of spring the U.S. EPA initiated its actual cleanup efforts on May 12, 2003 with the arrival of the cleanup contractor on site. Work still to be performed by the U.S. EPA that will eliminate the threats still posed to human health and/or the environment include:

1. Decontamination of areas of the floor in the Plant #2 (over 1,000,000 sq. ft.) where previous wipe samples indicated high levels of PCB contamination.
2. Decontamination of the sump in the "chip wringer" area.
3. Collection of numerous mercury switches throughout the facility.
4. Removal of "bag house" dust and the decontamination of its sump.
5. Treatment of an unknown amount of contaminated water from tunnels located in both the new and the former die cast areas.
6. Removal of various oils in the tunnels, once the water has been removed.
7. Removal and decontamination of a tanker contaminated with PCB's.
8. Removal of the PCB oil from 27 transformers in the facility.
9. Removal of small amounts of friable asbestos.

It is estimated that this work will take 6 to 8 weeks to complete. The work is being performed with a crew of 8 people. Once the cleanup activities have been completed, U.S. EPA will cease security, eliminate the caretaker, and eliminate electrical service into Plant #2. It is hopeful that the City of Waukegan will take over these tasks prior to the U.S. EPA completion. An adaptation will be made to continue electrical service to the three "pump and treat" plants at the three containment cells until the

-3-

Illinois EPA takes over this responsibility.

Costs to date are approximately \$145,000 out of a budget of \$460,000.